

about buying that new F-150 Lightning or a Chevy Volt or a Jeep Wrangler can make the leap to electric with confidence. We can't wait any longer because China certainly isn't waiting.

Because this legislation also includes my Make It in America Act that I introduced with Senator BRAUN, the American taxpayer dollars we will be investing will go to American manufacturers and American workers. It adds new guardrails so that Federal Agencies can't buy products made in Mumbai instead of Monroe, MI, when those products are available in Michigan. It also calls for products purchased by Federal Agencies to be incorporating more domestic content. It makes the Made in America Director and the Made in America Office a permanent part of the Office of Management and Budget. That will ensure that American workers and American jobs receive preference regardless of who sits in the Oval Office.

This legislation doesn't just benefit big companies; it also calls for Agencies to use the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, which is extremely effective in Michigan and across the country. That means small- and medium-sized manufacturers will have more opportunities to sell their products to the Federal Government and provide materials for federally funded infrastructure projects, including all those roads and bridges we will be re-building.

I have often said of the farm bill that it has Michigan on every page. I have got to say this bill comes pretty darned close.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, to invest in America, and to finally get Infrastructure Week translated into action.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The Senator from New Jersey.

**EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH CUBAN CITIZENS DEMONSTRATING PEACEFULLY FOR FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, CONDEMNING THE CUBAN REGIME'S ACTS OF REPRESSION, AND CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF ARBITRARILY DETAINED CUBAN CITIZENS**

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I am proud to come to the floor today to ask for unanimous consent on this bipartisan resolution expressing solidarity with the people of Cuba. This resolution passed out of the Foreign Relations Committee by a voice vote, with overwhelming bipartisan support.

I want to thank the senior Senator from Florida for his partnership on this resolution, which has the support of Senators DURBIN, KAINÉ; Senator RISCH, the ranking member on the Foreign Relations Committee; as well as many others on both sides of the aisle.

In passing this resolution today, the U.S. Senate can send a powerful message about the truly historic events occurring in Cuba in recent weeks.

On July 11, in an unprecedented wave of demonstrations across the island, the Cuban people peacefully took to the streets and raised their voices to call for freedom and an end to tyranny. We saw the courage of the Cuban people. Images of Cubans chanting "abajo la dictadura," which means "down with the dictatorship," and singing "Patria y Vida," or "Fatherland and Life," spread around the globe. Yet the Diaz-Canel regime responded with an authoritarian crackdown and violent repression out of fear of losing its iron grip over the Cuban people.

The regime cut the internet to stop the Cuban people from accessing social media—a tool they were bravely using to open the eyes of the world. Who does that? Only a country that fears its people shuts down the internet. But it was too late. The truth went viral.

The regime has arrested more than 700 people, and most remain incommunicado. Dozens more are already being subjected to summary trials, without access to legal defense or even a veneer of due process. Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, and the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights have all spoken out against the Cuban regime's campaign of oppression.

President Biden rightfully and repeatedly denounced the regime's actions and has announced two rounds of Global Magnitsky sanctions on human rights abusers. The President has brought together allies of Cuban freedom both at home and abroad. On Friday, the President convened a meeting of Cuban-American leaders to discuss this crisis and hear our suggestions on how to best support the pro-democracy efforts underway in Cuba.

Last week, Secretary of State Blinken led a coalition of 20 countries in a joint statement to express international solidarity with the Cuban people and their rights to freedom of expression, freedom of assembly, freedom to determine their own future.

While important steps are being taken, more needs to be done. The Cuban people, in this unprecedented hour of uncertainty and need, cannot afford anything less than our full support.

With this resolution, the Senate will add its voice to the ongoing efforts and reinforce U.S. solidarity with the Cuban people and their efforts to restore democracy and human rights in their country. It is the same resolution that is also being offered in the House of Representatives on the same bipartisan basis.

Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 111, S. Res. 310; further, that the committee-reported substitute amendment to the resolution be agreed to; the resolution, as amended, be agreed to; the preamble be agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution (S. Res. 310) ex-

pressing solidarity with Cuban citizens demonstrating peacefully for fundamental freedoms, condemning the Cuban regime's acts of repression, and calling for the immediate release of arbitrarily detained Cuban citizens, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment to strike all after the resolving clause and insert the part printed in italic, as follows:

S. RES. 310

Whereas, on July 11, 2021, thousands of Cuban citizens took to the streets to peacefully protest and to call for respect for basic human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the end of the dictatorship in Cuba;

Whereas the demonstrations were the largest protests witnessed on the island in 25 years, with courageous Cuban men, women, and youth taking to the streets in at least 50 different cities and towns across every province to affirm a deep aspiration for democratic change and to denounce the regime's corruption;

Whereas the nationwide protests represent the full diversity of Cuban society, with demonstrators proudly proclaiming "Patria y Vida!" (Homeland and Life!) and calling for "libertad" (liberty);

Whereas the demonstrations in Cuba follow months of severe shortages of food and basic medicine, frequent power outages, record high rates of transmission of COVID-19, and the Cuban regime's ineffective response, in addition to the Cuban regime's continued repression and arbitrary imprisonment of citizens, peaceful activists, and artists;

Whereas, despite the authoritarian regime's blocking of internet service to prevent the spread of information about the demonstrations, Cubans witnessed examples of their compatriots demanding change in their country and courageously joined the growing protests;

Whereas, despite the peaceful nature of the demonstrations, Miguel Diaz-Canel incited violence among Cubans and encouraged his supporters to attack peaceful protestors, declaring in a televised address, "the order to fight has been given—into the streets" and pledged his supporters' lives: "Over our dead bodies. We are prepared to do anything";

Whereas Diaz-Canel has sought to delegitimize peaceful protestors, crudely stating they constitute a small group of "vulgar criminals" that are "paid" to be disruptive;

Whereas Diaz-Canel sought to blame the endemic problems causing so much human suffering by the Cuban people on outside forces instead of on the Cuban regime's longstanding corruption, mismanagement, and theft of public resources;

Whereas the Cuban regime's domestic security apparatus, including military and police, were recorded on video violently repressing peaceful Cuban citizens, including by using live ammunition and attacking journalists;

Whereas numerous reports indicate deaths of and injuries to Cuban protestors at the hands of the regime's security forces, including instances of police firing live ammunition into crowds and at least one documented police beating that led to a civilian death;

Whereas independent Cuban civil society groups have reported that hundreds of individuals have been arrested, detained, or are missing;

Whereas defying regime repression, continued internet shutdowns, and illegal searches of the homes of activists and protestors, Cuban men, women, and youth continued to peacefully protest throughout the island on

Monday, July 12, using social media to organize themselves and document acts of regime repression;

Whereas international human rights groups, including Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, have long condemned the Cuban regime for violating human rights and fundamental freedoms; and

Whereas for years the Cuban regime has exported its authoritarian methods to Venezuela, sending intelligence personnel to assist Venezuelan security forces as they repressed similar peaceful protests calling for democratic change: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Senate—*

[(1) expresses its strong solidarity with the people of Cuba in their desire to live in a free and democratic country with uncensored access to information, justice, and economic prosperity;

[(2) condemns the violence ordered by Miguel Díaz-Canel against peaceful protesters as violations of internationally recognized human rights that does nothing to address Cuba's challenges;

[(3) calls on Cuban forces—

[(A) to respect the Cuban people's exercise of freedom of assembly, freedom of expression, and other universal human rights;

[(B) to refrain from restricting internet access and connectivity in the country; and

[(C) to permit Cuban citizens to freely communicate on digital platforms, as is their fundamental right;

[(4) calls for the immediate and unconditional release of all arbitrarily detained Cuban citizens and all Cuban political prisoners;

[(5) calls on members of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, the Cuban Ministry of the Interior, and Cuba's National Revolutionary Police Force to refrain from violently repressing peaceful protesters and committing other human rights violations; and

[(6) urges democratic governments and legislatures in Europe, Latin America, and the Caribbean—

[(A) to pledge their support for freedom and democracy in Cuba; and

[(B) to speak out against the repression of demonstrators in Cuba.]

*That the Senate—*

(1) expresses its strong solidarity with the people of Cuba in their desire to live in a free and democratic country with uncensored access to information, justice, and economic prosperity;

(2) condemns the violence ordered by Miguel Díaz-Canel against peaceful protesters as violations of internationally recognized human rights that does nothing to address Cuba's challenges;

(3) calls on Cuban forces—

(A) to respect the Cuban people's exercise of freedom of assembly, freedom of expression, and other universal human rights;

(B) to refrain from restricting internet access and connectivity in the country; and

(C) to permit Cuban citizens to freely communicate on digital platforms, as is their fundamental right;

(4) calls for the immediate and unconditional release of all arbitrarily detained Cuban citizens and all Cuban political prisoners;

(5) calls on members of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, the Cuban Ministry of the Interior, and Cuba's National Revolutionary Police Force to refrain from violently repressing peaceful protesters and committing other human rights violations;

(6) urges foreign governments, including authoritarian regimes, to halt the provision of technology, equipment, and other forms of assistance that are increasing the capability of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, the Cuban

Ministry of the Interior, and Cuba's National Revolutionary Police Force to violently repress peaceful protesters, curtail freedom of expression through censorship of the internet, and commit other human rights abuses; and

(7) urges democratic governments and legislatures in Europe, Latin America, and the Caribbean—

(A) to pledge their support for freedom and democracy in Cuba; and

(B) to speak out against the repression of demonstrators in Cuba.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I rise today in solidarity with the brave Cuban people fighting for freedom. For decades, the Cuban people suffered atrocities, oppression, and misery at the hands of the illegitimate communist Castro regime.

I have repeatedly told the story of Sirley Avila Leon, a Cuban woman who was attacked by communist Cuban security forces in 2015. They cut off her hand and stuck her arm in the mud to make sure it got infected. Her crime? She complained that the regime was going to shut down a school in her neighborhood.

I have spoken to brave leaders like Jose Daniel Ferrer and the courageous members of his Patriotic Union of Cuba, who are fighting every day to defend human rights, freedom, and the democratic movement in Cuba. Jose Daniel Ferrer is currently being detained by the communist regime, and his family doesn't know where he is. Activists like Jose Daniel Ferrer and the artists of the San Isidro Movement are the future of Cuba, not the ruthless communist regime.

This is the same communist regime that for decades has been the root of the instability we see across Latin America. The communist Cuban regime props up other dangerous dictators, like Maduro in Venezuela and Ortega in Nicaragua, threatening the region and the national security of the United States.

What we are seeing now in Cuba should send a clear message to the world: Communism is a failed ideology that does nothing but lead to suffering and oppression. Communism doesn't work. Socialism doesn't work.

The people of Cuba are crying out for freedom. They are denouncing the oppressive communist rule that has brought ruin to their nation for more than 60 years. This disgusting assault on the people of Cuba cannot go unchecked.

I very much appreciate my colleague's efforts to condemn the atrocities of the regime, but this resolution is missing one thing: These atrocities are undeniably linked to communism.

I stand today to offer a friendly amendment that simply condemns communism in this resolution, labeling the Cuban dictators Diaz-Canel and Raul Castro what they are: a ruthless, communist Cuban regime.

In America, we understand the value and importance of freedom in our ev-

eryday lives, and it is our duty to support and stand up for those who are oppressed by dictators and denied the right to live freely. It is our duty to speak the truth about communism.

I stand proudly with the heroic freedom fighters across Cuba who have taken to the streets, determined to regain their freedom and put an end to the communist Castro dictatorship.

To the people of Cuba: You are not alone. Together, we will defeat communism.

The freedom of Cuba is closer than ever, and we are not going to stop until we see a new day of freedom, democracy, and "Patria y Vida" in Cuba.

I urge my colleagues to support my important amendment today. Therefore, I ask that the Senator modify his request to include my amendment, which is at the desk; that the resolution, as amended, be agreed to; that the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator so modify his request?

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I totally agree that the Castro regime and its prodigy is a communist-socialist dictatorship in tyranny. Before the Senator was ever in this institution or involved with the issue, for 30 years, I have been saying exactly that.

The Senator, however, knows that in order to accept an amendment to a resolution that has been hotlined in both caucuses, this process could not move forward. I cannot simply accept the amendment. I would have to go through the whole process. And the fact of the matter is, I think there is a fierce urgency of now. This resolution already has the approval of 99 Senators, and if the Senator were to insist on his amendment, the junior Senator from Florida would be the only one standing in its way.

This bipartisan resolution is cosponsored by 19 Senators. The initiative is co-lead by Senator RUBIO, the senior Senator from Florida, the ranking member of the Senate Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere affairs. It is sponsored by Senator RISCH, the ranking member of the full Foreign Relations Committee. It is supported by Senators CRUZ and ROMNEY and HAGERTY, all of them leading Republican voices on the Foreign Relations Committee. With this strong Republican backing, the Foreign Relations Committee passed this resolution last Wednesday on a voice vote, with overwhelming bipartisan support.

Now, intervening, we have had this infrastructure bill, and so we are here trying to get this finally done. We have an opportunity to act today and send a powerful, bipartisan message in support of the Cuban people and condemn the regime's brutal repression.

Now, I personally agree with the sentiment of the junior Senator from Florida, but that reality is the reality that

has existed. We are talking about the reality today of trying to send a bipartisan, bicameral message.

This resolution already condemns its present Cuban dictator, Miguel Diaz-Canel, by name for his direct role in ordering a violent crackdown against the Cuban people. It also documents the massive wave of arrests in Cuba. It denounces in plain language the regime's brutal violence and its use of summary trials to arbitrarily sentence protesters who have no access to a lawyer.

So let me be clear. I have led U.S. and international efforts to oppose Cuba's communist dictatorship for 30 years in the Congress, including my role in helping create the Cuban Democracy Act and drafting the LIBERTAD Act. No one in Congress has a longer or more unwavering track record than I do when it comes to condemning the Cuban regime. But this resolution is a strong rebuke of the regime's recent actions, and it also achieves the bipartisan opportunity we need for Senate approval.

There comes a time when we have to put actions over words. Today, the Senate has a chance to act. We should not delay another hour in passing this resolution, and because that is exactly what would happen, I have to object to the Senator's amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard to the modification.

Is there an objection to the original request?

The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, let me just read this. All I am saying is, the resolution would add "condemns the murderous Communist party of Cuba for decades of oppression against the Cuban people, the destruction of the Cuban economy, and the destructive spread of communism in the Western Hemisphere."

I wish my colleague from New Jersey would accept my simple but important, friendly amendment, but I will consent to allowing this resolution to move forward.

I will always stand proudly with the brave people in Cuba, fighting for their freedom, and against the brutal communist regime which continues to oppress them.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 310), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I appreciate that the Senator from Florida, while I share his sentiments, did not press forward on insisting on the amendment, which would have delayed this, and most importantly, I think the Cuban people are the ones who are going to thank him as well.

I yield the floor.

# INVESTING IN A NEW VISION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND SURFACE TRANSPORTATION IN AMERICA ACT—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

## CORONAVIRUS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I want to start by wishing our friend and colleague Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM a speedy recovery. Yesterday, Senator GRAHAM shared that he had tested positive for COVID-19. We are all relieved to hear his symptoms are mild, and we look forward to seeing him back in the Chamber once he recovers.

I hope everyone at home follows Senator GRAHAM's example by getting vaccinated. In Senator GRAHAM's words, "[W]ithout vaccination, I am certain I would not feel as well as I do now."

The Delta variant is no joke. COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations are surging across America, and they are surging the most in those parts of the country where large numbers of people are unvaccinated.

Over 90 percent of the most recent infections, hospitalizations, and deaths are among people who were not vaccinated. The good news is, vaccinations are starting to trend upward. Thanks to the leadership of the President and the urging of many health professionals, as of yesterday, it has been reported that 70 percent of adults have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. That is an important milestone. Our Nation is slowly, slowly headed in the right direction, but we need to pick up the pace.

Experts say that more than 80 percent of the population needs to get vaccinated before we can start anticipating herd immunity. So please listen to my friend Senator GRAHAM's advice and get vaccinated. It will save your life as well as the lives of those you love.

## DC METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mr. President, on another matter, yesterday we received word that a fourth police officer who responded to the January 6 insurrection here in the Capitol has died by suicide.

Officer Gunther Hashida was a member of the DC Metropolitan Police Department, and he was a hero. I also want to note that hours after Officer Hashida's death was announced, the Metropolitan Police Department confirmed that another officer, Kyle DeFreytag, died by suicide last month.

As we all witnessed last week, many of the Capitol and Metropolitan Police officers who defended us—defended us—and the Capitol on January 6 are still grappling with the physical and emotional trauma of that day. We have to do everything we can to support them, from providing access to mental and emotional support to ensuring that everyone who bears responsibility from the January 6 insurrection is held ac-

countable. It is my understanding that 600 people have already been charged with wrongdoing for what occurred on that day, and many more will be charged.

The supplemental funding package that the Senate passed last week was a good starting point. To deny what January 6 was about is literally adding insult to injury for those officers—brave officers—who defended us. They deserve better. They deserve justice, and we deserve the truth.

To the friends and families of Officers Hashida and DeFreytag, we are so sorry for your loss. We grieve with you. We will honor their memory.

To all of the other police officers and National Guard members who defended the Capitol on January 6, despite what you hear from some of the politicians in Congress, we thank you, and we appreciate your valor and your sacrifice.

Earlier this morning, Senators KLOBUCHAR and BLUNT introduced a bipartisan resolution to award these heroes the Congressional Gold Medal. I am proud to support that effort.

## CLEAN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. President, on one more topic, "forever chemicals." It is a phrase that sounds ambiguous and ominous. Some of these pollutants—known as PFAS chemicals—are used in cleaning supplies, stain-resistant clothing, cosmetics, polishes, waxes, and the kind of foam that firefighters use to fight fires.

And although they have their practical applications, these "forever chemicals" present a major problem: They don't go away. They don't break down. Once they are introduced into the environment, they stick around forever.

A growing body of research suggests that "forever chemicals" are linked to a whole host of human health complications: cancer, kidney disease, liver damage, birth defects. Sadly, it is estimated that most people already have trace amounts of these chemicals in their bodies. But imagine if you or your children were forced to ingest these toxic "forever chemicals" multiple times a day, every day. That is the dangerous reality for many American families. I am sorry to report that includes thousands of families in my home State of Illinois.

On Friday, the Chicago Sun Times published a story on the presence of these chemicals in water systems in the Chicago area, Lake Forest, Waukegan, and South Elgin. Water system managers in these areas have found enough evidence of chemicals that the Illinois EPA is calling for further testing. That additional testing is just in the preliminary stage.

As I mentioned, these contaminants are impressively imperishable, and they are being found everywhere. As an example, a few years ago, a dairy farmer in Maine discovered that one of these "forever chemicals" had seeped into his farmland through a fertilizer that he used. He only found out because the chemicals were showing up in